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# Market News

Issued LIVESTOCK DIVISION Weekly

MARKET REVIEWS AND STATISTICS

Vol. 24, No. 20 May 15, 1956

Week ended May 12


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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION
Washington 25, D. C.

AGRI-WASH

## MIDWEST LIVESTOCK MARKET REVIEW

Cattle receipts decreased compared with the previous week and were smallest since mid-April. Fed steer trade was featured by both higher and lower prices, closing sales varying from 50¢ higher to 50¢ lower, instances off more, with more pressure than recently on weights above 1150#. Heifers were in good demand at steady to 50¢ higher prices, and cows also cleared readily with closing prices steady to $1.00 higher. Recent rainfall and higher temperatures stimulated pasture growth, and for the second straight week demand expanded for stocker and feeder cattle. Prices were largely steady to 50¢ higher with yearling stockers and stock calves occasionally as much as $1.00 higher. Hog receipts were smallest since last September and butchers closed 50¢-$1.00 higher. Prices of spring lambs showed further upturns at several markets, but weakened late at a few points.

## SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES

Cattle marketings decreased for the second straight week and were smallest since the week ended April 14. Despite smaller numbers of beef steers, trading was slow and uneven with buyers more "weight conscious" than in several weeks. Most unevenness was shown on fed steers with price declines at several markets on weights around 1150 pounds and above. At Chicago late steer sales were largely steady to 50¢ higher with closing transactions at Indianapolis and St. Louis National Stock Yards mainly 25 to 50¢ higher. At most other midwest markets, late prices were unevenly 50¢ higher to 50¢ lower, with severest pressure on weights around 1150 pounds and heavier. At Omaha high-Choice and Prime fed steers closed 50¢-$1.00 lower than a week earlier, other grades weak to 50¢ lower. Among the bearish influences in the week's trade were some weakness in dressed beef prices and reduced order buyer activity due to impending non-slaughtering Jewish holidays. Receipts of heifers were again moderate to small and trading on these was active at steady to 50¢ higher prices. Strengthening of heifer prices in recent weeks has substantially reduced the price spread between steers and heifers. Marketings of cows were moderate to small with decreases at some points. This class was in good demand and prices closed steady to 50¢ higher, instances 75¢-$1.00 up. Bulls sold firm to 50¢ higher. The average weight of beef steers at Chicago was 1122 pounds, a few pounds below the week before and lightest in six months. The average weight at Omaha showed little change but at Sioux City it was 15 pounds below the previous week. Bulk of the week's supply of fed steers consisted of Good and Choice grades.

Price spread on Good to Prime steers remained wide. One load of high-Prime 1202 pound fed steers reached $27.00 at Chicago, next highest price there $25.00, bulk Prime 1100-1400 pounds $23.00-24.00; Choice and mixed Choice and Prime 1593-1835 pound steers $20.00-22.00. Bulk of the Good and Choice fed steers cashed at Chicago and other midwest markets from $17.00-21.00, with most heifers $16.50-20.50, a short load of Prime 886 pound heifers reaching $22.00 at Omaha.

Calves and vealers were steady to $1.00 higher, instances $2.00 up at St. Joseph. Good and Choice vealers sold from $20.00-24.00 at S. St. Paul, Prime to $25.00, Commercial $15.00-19.00. At St. Louis National Stock Yards, Good and Choice vealers brought $18.00-24.00; same grades of slaughter calves $18.00-20.00, Commercial to low-Good $15.00-17.00.

## STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES

Volume of stocker and feeder cattle and calf receipts at terminal markets varied only slightly from that of the previous week, but was materially smaller than might have been expected if range conditions had remained as dry as during most of April. However, substantial rains during the past two or three weeks have

materially improved pasture prospects in many of the areas which earlier this spring had been suffering from drought. This has not only tended to slow marketings of stock cattle during the past couple of weeks but has also influenced an expanded and noticeably more aggressive demand. In addition, many feeders apparently expect a fairly good outlet for fat cattle during the next several months, based on estimates of reduced numbers of cattle now on feed. Thus, trading for all classes was fairly active and the previous week's price upturns were followed by additional advances during the week under review. Prices were largely steady to 50¢ higher, extremes as much as $1.00 higher on yearling stockers and calves. Although fat cattle prices are materially higher than during last winter's low time, the current margin between feeder and fat cattle prices is still narrow. The average cost of all stocker and feeder steers 800 pounds up shipped from Kansas City during the week was $18.01 while the average cost of all Choice beef steers there was $19.77. A year ago the costs were $20.25 and $22.34, respectively.

Choice partly-fattened 1113 pound steers sold for further feeding at $20.25. Other Good and Choice feeders 800 pounds up ranged from $16.50-20.00, the majority $17.50-19.00. Good and Choice yearling stock steers bulked from $17.00-20.50, including a few loads around 650 pounds at $20.00 and $20.25. Choice 592 pound yearling steers reached $21.00. Good and Choice yearling heifers brought $16.00-18.50, one shipment of Choice 541 pounds $19.00. Several loads of Choice thin-fleshed 330-400 pound heifer calves brought $19.50. Steer calves of comparable flesh and grade were very scarce. However, a few Choice steer calves sold upward to $21.50. The few Medium and Good stock cows on offer bulked at $10.00-12.00. One load of Good young cows with calves at side rated $14.00.

Shipments of steers to the country totaled 15,681 compared with 13,889 a week ago and 19,539 a year ago. Outgo of calves was 4,197 compared with 4,043 the previous week and 8,959 a year ago.

## HOGS

Receipts in the midwest were smallest since early last September, but the combined total for the 12 terminal markets and Interior Iowa-Southern Minnesota area was still moderately larger than for the same period last year. Prices at most points were lower Monday, but improved shipping orders along with packing plant aggressiveness for the smaller supply influenced a progressive advance on following days. Net upturns were the greatest since the latter part of March, carrying top prices to the highest levels since last September at several points. Compared with the previous Friday, butchers closed 50¢-$1.00 higher, with prices at several terminals 75¢ or more up. Sows were unevenly steady to as much as $1.25 higher, mostly 50-75¢ up. Butchers weighing 180-260 pounds often sold within a 50¢ price range. Most late sales of mixed U. S. No. 1 to 3 lots at terminal centers ranged from $15.75-16.50 compared with a general spread of $15.40-15.85 in the Interior area. No. 1 and 2 butchers sold 25-50¢ or more higher than lots of mostly No. 2 and 3 grade of comparable weight. However, No. 1 and 2 lots were in rather small supply, particularly in the Eastern part of the Corn Belt. Uniform lots also sold somewhat higher than uneven lots of similar weights. Competition for numbers in the Interior area nearly eliminated the discounting of excessively fat butchers at many country points. Sows made up from 5 to 19 percent of receipts at the 8 markets.

Feeder pig prices were mostly 50¢ higher. Good and Choice sold at S. St. Paul from $14.00-15.00. The same grades at Sioux City brought $13.50-14.00. Some 125-150 pound feeders at Kansas City sold from $13.50-13.75.

Continued on page 407.

| Market | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 |
| Chicago | 39,792 | 38,569 | 1,401 | 2,285 | 43,419 | 46,276 | 3,039 | 9,034 |
| Cincinnati | 3,742 | 3,695 | 1,351 | 1,478 | 13,304 | 12,476 | 315 | 403 |
| Denver | 14,317 | 15,826 | 813 | 1,261 | 3,405 | 2,473 | 5,360 | 8,613 |
| Fort Worth | 12,131 | 17,458 | 2,189 | 3,514 | 3,780 | 2,283 | 46,350 | 42,073 |
| Indianapolis | 9,030 | 8,942 | 1,097 | 1,487 | 41,825 | 38,335 | 929 | 517 |
| Kansas City | 17,188 | 20,076 | 1,356 | 2,151 | 13,106 | 7,686 | 9,760 | 18,765 |
| Oklahoma City | 12,135 | 11,826 | 1,035 | 1,301 | 5,227 | 2,801 | 4,885 | 2,745 |
| Omaha | 40,010 | 44,284 | 911 | 1,639 | 35,687 | 34,304 | 6,845 | 14,413 |
| St. Joseph | 13,559 | 13,094 | 962 | 991 | 27,557 | 23,549 | 3,055 | 6,615 |
| St. Louis NSY | 17,641 | 16,786 | 3,942 | 4,649 | 65,333 | 46,726 | 2,861 | 4,161 |
| Sioux City | 21,961 | 23,135 | 457 | 623 | 23,466 | 25,077 | 2,912 | 5,478 |
| S. St. Paul | 20,610 | 19,925 | 8,066 | 7,899 | 46,656 | 39,008 | 3,144 | 4,437 |
| Total | 222,116 | 233,616 | 23,580 | 29,278 | 322,765 | 280,994 | 89,455 | 117,254 |
| May 5, 1956 | 237,455 | | 23,032 | | 327,788 | | 75,342 | |

## INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

| Week ended: | Hogs | Sheep |
|---|---|---|
| May 12, 1956 | 280,500 | 18,400 |
| May 5, 1956 | 341,500 | 22,600 |
| May 14, 1955 | 278,000 | 19,800 |

## FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

| | Week ended | | | Month | | Four months | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | May 12 1955 | Apr. 1956 | Apr. 1955 | Jan. - Apr. 1956 | Jan. - Apr. 1955 |
| Steers - 1001# up | 527 | 242 | 670 | 2,058 | 3,670 | 6,935 | 10,955 |
| 901-1000 | 996 | 820 | 1,298 | 5,131 | 8,283 | 23,042 | 34,570 |
| 801-900 | 2,355 | 2,127 | 2,031 | 8,812 | 11,346 | 46,133 | 51,987 |
| 701-800 | 3,484 | 3,043 | 3,773 | 13,629 | 13,611 | 55,399 | 55,890 |
| 501-700 | 8,319 | 7,657 | 11,767 | 39,430 | 42,816 | 146,017 | 159,351 |
| Total steers 10 mkts. | 15,681 | 13,889 | 19,539 | 69,060 | 79,726 | 277,526 | 312,753 |
| Av. wts. " " " | 710# | 700# | 691# | 697# | 716# | 708# | 718# |
| Av.cost* " " " | $17.22 | $17.00 | $18.69 | $17.32 | $20.52 | $16.83 | $20.13 |
| " " " Chicago | 17.77 | 17.61 | 20.85 | 18.41 | 20.96 | 17.34 | 20.30 |
| " " " Ks. City | 18.03 | 17.80 | 19.76 | 17.81 | 21.25 | 17.36 | 20.90 |
| " " " Omaha | 16.96 | 16.74 | 17.81 | 17.13 | 20.67 | 16.65 | 20.17 |
| " " " S. St. Paul | 15.86 | 15.70 | 17.64 | 16.36 | 19.04 | 15.46 | 18.24 |
| " " " Sioux City | 17.72 | 17.42 | 19.73 | 17.67 | 20.77 | 17.09 | 20.48 |
| " " " Denver | 18.18 | 17.19 | 20.38 | 17.49 | 20.96 | 17.34 | 21.78 |
| " " " Ft. Worth | 16.13 | 15.72 | 16.87 | 16.87 | 19.23 | 16.46 | 19.11 |
| " " " Okla. City | 16.10 | 16.24 | 17.05 | 16.30 | 19.36 | 16.27 | 19.21 |
| " " " S. St. Joseph | 17.19 | 16.04 | 18.59 | 16.77 | 20.03 | 16.54 | 19.84 |
| " " " Nort. Stk. Yds. | 16.84 | 16.68 | 18.27 | 16.92 | 19.69 | 16.35 | 18.99 |
| Total calves-10 mkts. | 4,197 | 4,043 | 8,959 | 19,195 | 29,732 | 91,570 | 125,293 |
| " cows. | | | | | | | |
| heifers, bulls- " " | 4,528 | 3,281 | 5,428 | 14,560 | 17,326 | 49,528 | 63,793 |

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

## BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

| Grade | Number of head | | | Percent of total by grades | | | Average weight (pounds) | | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Week ended | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 |
| **CHICAGO** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 1237 | 1477 | 1010 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 1291 | 1287 | 1217 | 22.98 | 23.34 | 25.75 |
| Choice | 15831 | 21007 | 14649 | 59.0 | 60.8 | 60.1 | 1174 | 1176 | 1123 | 20.59 | 20.67 | 22.77 |
| Good | 8626 | 10712 | 6799 | 32.0 | 31.0 | 27.9 | 1026 | 1026 | 1004 | 18.52 | 18.56 | 20.10 |
| Com'l. | 1101 | 1142 | 1623 | 4.1 | 3.3 | 6.7 | 936 | 941 | 937 | 15.73 | 15.69 | 17.25 |
| Utility | 91 | 208 | 284 | .3 | .6 | 1.2 | 1036 | 1010 | 930 | 14.34 | 14.34 | 14.92 |
| All grades | 26886 | 34546 | 24365 | | | | 1122 | 1126 | 1079 | 19.92 | 20.03 | 21.82 |
| **OMAHA 1/** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 188 | 478 | 81 | 1.0 | 2.5 | .5 | 1309 | 1313 | 1269 | 21.72 | 22.49 | 24.49 |
| Choice | 11444 | 11957 | 10512 | 63.2 | 63.5 | 63.5 | 1155 | 1152 | 1106 | 19.78 | 19.94 | 21.37 |
| Good | 5526 | 5451 | 4604 | 30.5 | 29.0 | 27.8 | 1029 | 1016 | 969 | 17.89 | 17.97 | 18.95 |
| Com'l. | 775 | 678 | 966 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 5.8 | 964 | 955 | 957 | 15.26 | 15.28 | 16.72 |
| Utility | 186 | 263 | 387 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 890 | 898 | 922 | 13.52 | 13.62 | 14.69 |
| All grades | 18119 | 18827 | 16550 | | | | 1108 | 1106 | 1056 | 19.05 | 19.27 | 20.39 |
| **SIOUX CITY 1/** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 271 | 242 | 82 | 2.8 | 2.5 | .9 | 1340 | 1297 | 1241 | 22.02 | 23.44 | 24.13 |
| Choice | 6327 | 6137 | 6616 | 65.8 | 64.3 | 70.4 | 1132 | 1161 | 1122 | 19.71 | 19.74 | 21.55 |
| Good | 2481 | 2665 | 1878 | 25.8 | 28.0 | 20.0 | 1054 | 1046 | 1032 | 18.14 | 17.93 | 19.36 |
| Com'l. | 522 | 460 | 607 | 5.4 | 4.8 | 6.5 | 982 | 988 | 978 | 16.06 | 16.16 | 17.16 |
| Utility | 15 | 34 | 207 | .2 | .4 | 2.2 | 1013 | 1023 | 1023 | 13.98 | 13.70 | 15.11 |
| All grades | 9616 | 9538 | 9390 | | | | 1109 | 1124 | 1094 | 19.22 | 19.18 | 20.78 |
| **KANSAS CITY 1/** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 20 | 111 | 41 | .4 | 1.4 | .9 | 1102 | 1138 | 1220 | 21.72 | 22.37 | 23.83 |
| Choice | 2690 | 3890 | 2377 | 56.7 | 50.3 | 54.2 | 1129 | 1112 | 1050 | 19.77 | 19.99 | 22.34 |
| Good | 1848 | 3252 | 1691 | 38.9 | 42.0 | 38.6 | 1039 | 1050 | 1020 | 18.33 | 18.34 | 19.68 |
| Com'l. | 182 | 391 | 206 | 3.8 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 1012 | 984 | 964 | 16.09 | 15.62 | 16.34 |
| Utility | 8 | 90 | 69 | .2 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 991 | 983 | 908 | 13.93 | 13.62 | 14.35 |
| All grades | 4748 | 7734 | 4384 | | | | 1089 | 1078 | 1034 | 19.10 | 19.08 | 20.97 |
| **ST. LOUIS NSY 1/** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 8 | -- | 17 | -- | -- | .4 | 1171 | -- | 1163 | 22.50 | -- | 25.00 |
| Choice | 2516 | 2592 | 847 | 36.0 | 31.9 | 20.4 | 1092 | 1092 | 1053 | 19.28 | 19.73 | 22.47 |
| Good | 2678 | 3435 | 2159 | 38.4 | 42.3 | 51.9 | 977 | 990 | 992 | 18.13 | 18.09 | 20.12 |
| Com'l. | 1294 | 1666 | 858 | 18.5 | 20.5 | 20.6 | 875 | 883 | 911 | 16.85 | 16.50 | 17.95 |
| Utility | 501 | 437 | 277 | 7.1 | 5.3 | 6.7 | 855 | 806 | 862 | 14.83 | 15.01 | 15.73 |
| All grades | 6997 | 8130 | 4158 | | | | 991 | 991 | 980 | 18.18 | 18.24 | 19.98 |
| **S. ST. JOSEPH 1/** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 95 | 116 | 34 | 1.6 | 1.6 | .6 | 1216 | 1229 | 1044 | 21.37 | 21.44 | 23.22 |
| Choice | 3564 | 3704 | 2780 | 59.9 | 51.6 | 49.0 | 1117 | 1136 | 1100 | 19.68 | 19.84 | 21.53 |
| Good | 1880 | 2383 | 2094 | 31.6 | 33.2 | 36.9 | 1030 | 1038 | 1010 | 18.09 | 18.00 | 19.38 |
| Com'l. | 319 | 959 | 644 | 5.4 | 13.3 | 11.4 | 922 | 956 | 1021 | 15.62 | 16.14 | 17.03 |
| Utility | 89 | 22 | 119 | 1.5 | .3 | 2.1 | 966 | 831 | 910 | 13.83 | 13.64 | 14.61 |
| All grades | 5947 | 7184 | 5671 | | | | 1079 | 1080 | 1054 | 18.97 | 18.83 | 20.16 |

Continued.

## BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

| Grade | Number of head | | | Percent of total by grades | | | Average weight (pounds) | | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Week ended | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 | May 10 1956 | May 3 1956 | 12 1955 |
| | DENVER 1/ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 239 | 85 | -- | 3.2 | 1.2 | -- | 1319 | 1433 | -- | 21.58 | 21.82 | -- |
| Choice | 5721 | 5890 | 4340 | 75.6 | 79.9 | 74.7 | 1117 | 1149 | 1105 | 19.63 | 19.76 | 22.53 |
| Good | 1517 | 1236 | 1304 | 20.0 | 16.7 | 22.5 | 1022 | 1043 | 1024 | 18.21 | 18.22 | 20.30 |
| Com'l. | 73 | 90 | 120 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 2.1 | 1000 | 1043 | 1046 | 15.74 | 15.20 | 16.15 |
| Utility | 16 | 76 | 42 | .2 | 1.0 | .7 | 854 | 1050 | 885 | 13.74 | 13.98 | 12.50 |
| All grades | 7566 | 7377 | 5806 | | | | 1102 | 1132 | 1084 | 19.40 | 19.45 | 21.87 |

1/ These summaries developed from data collected on marketings of fed cattle by the Agricultural Estimates Division.

## ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

| Week ended | Beef | | Veal | | Pork (excl. lard) | | Lamb and mutton | | Total meat prod. | Total lard prod. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Prod. | Number | Prod. | Number | Prod. | Number | Prod. | | |
| | 1,000 | mil. lb. | 1,000 | mil. lb. | 1,000 | mil. lb. | 1,000 | mil. lb. | mil. lb. | mil. lb. |
| May 12, 1956 | 372 | 203.9 | 136 | 16.5 | 1,157 | 155.5 | 244 | 11.5 | 387.4 | -- |
| May 5, 1956 | 393 | 215.4 | 145 | 17.4 | 1,270 | 170.7 | 242 | 11.4 | 414.9 | -- |
| Apr. 28, 1956 1/ | 377 | -- | 140 | -- | 1,333 | -- | 264 | -- | -- | 46.7 |
| May 14, 1955 | 370 | 197.9 | 144 | 17.4 | 1,013 | 142.1 | 302 | 14.3 | 371.7 | 39.1 |
| Percentage change from: | | | | | | | | | | |
| May 5, 1956 | -5 | -5 | -6 | -5 | -9 | -9 | +1 | +1 | -7 | -- |
| May 14, 1955 | +1 | +3 | -6 | -5 | +14 | +9 | -19 | -20 | +4 | -- |

| Week ended | Average weights (lb.) | | | | | | | | Lard yield per 100 lb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep and lambs | | |
| | Live | Dressed | Live | Dressed | Live | Dressed 2/ | Live | Dressed | |
| May 12, 1956 | 990 | 548 | 220 | 121 | 240 | 134 | 96 | 47 | -- |
| May 5, 1956 | 990 | 548 | 215 | 120 | 240 | 134 | 97 | 47 | -- |
| Apr. 28, 1956 | 990 | 548 | 210 | 117 | 236 | 132 | 98 | 48 | -- |
| May 14, 1955 | 965 | 535 | 217 | 121 | 250 | 140 | 97 | 47 | 15.4 |

1/ Actual slaughter and revised estimate of production. 2/ Excludes lard.

## WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

| City or Area | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep and lambs | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 14 1955 |
| Boston, New York City Area | 14,443 | 11,484 | 11,634 | 12,012 | 45,439 | 51,761 | 44,310 | 48,530 |
| Baltimore, Philadelphia | 7,709 | 7,487 | 1,469 | 1,398 | 28,110 | 23,631 | 2,504 | 2,172 |
| Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls. | 18,339 | 15,839 | 7,675 | 6,686 | 91,127 | 78,178 | 12,478 | 12,341 |
| Chicago Area | 26,487 | 23,963 | 6,581 | 7,887 | 54,057 | 61,004 | 4,245 | 7,457 |
| St. Paul-Wis Areas | 29,940 | 27,798 | 24,248 | 25,170 | 94,724 | 76,690 | 7,224 | 9,813 |
| St. Louis Area | 15,485 | 16,199 | 6,297 | 7,636 | 86,300 | 63,204 | 5,320 | 10,321 |
| Sioux City | 11,738 | 8,942 | 82 | 116 | 19,466 | 10,753 | 1/ | 2,397 |
| Omaha Area | 31,621 | 35,524 | 957 | 1,224 | 66,845 | 55,913 | 10,669 | 18,254 |
| Kansas City | 14,079 | 14,557 | 3,028 | 4,208 | 29,085 | 23,680 | 10,482 | 15,807 |
| Iowa-So. Minnesota | 29,212 | 26,981 | 12,552 | 12,057 | 246,465 | 230,035 | 21,400 | 27,296 |
| Lou'l. Evan'l. Nash'l. Mph's. | 9,653 | 9,653 | 7,747 | 11,658 | 53,840 | 44,035 | 1/ | 1/ |
| Georgia-Alabama Area | 6,163 | 9,422 | 3,327 | 4,930 | 28,917 | 18,667 | 1/ | 1/ |
| St. Jo'ph. Wichita, Okla. City | 18,069 | 18,998 | 3,557 | 3,980 | 48,128 | 39,385 | 16,073 | 20,399 |
| Ft. Worth, Dallas, San Antonio | 16,473 | 21,527 | 5,926 | 8,213 | 18,449 | 15,690 | 30,221 | 40,829 |
| Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake City | 18,660 | 16,723 | 918 | 874 | 16,351 | 14,348 | 17,552 | 15,969 |
| Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas | 27,292 | 26,037 | 3,461 | 4,142 | 33,889 | 30,735 | 29,367 | 32,661 |
| Portland, Seattle, Spokane | 7,260 | 7,229 | 728 | 418 | 15,734 | 14,341 | 4,684 | 4,365 |
| Total | 302,623 | 298,363 | 100,187 | 112,609 | 976,926 | 852,050 | 216,529 | 268,611 |
| Accumulation to date | 5,684,745 | 5,406,878 | 1,982,534 | 2,002,599 | 22,354,586 | 18,722,032 | 4,620,728 | 4,680,973 |

1/ Not available.

## ESTIMATED PERCENT FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

| Week ended | Chicago | Kansas City | Omaha | S. St. Joseph | St. Louis NSY | Sioux City | S. St. Paul | Indianapolis | Denver | Fort Worth | Okla. City | Wichita | San Antonio |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Feeders and stockers** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May 11, 1956 | 3 | 35 | 12 | 12 | 4 | 18 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 25 | 35 | 32 | 50 |
| May 4, 1956 | 3 | 28 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 19 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 30 | 30 | 27 | 35 |
| May 13, 1955 | 4 | 43 | 15 | 13 | 6 | 20 | 8 | 7 | 12 | 35 | 50 | 35 | 35 |
| **Slaughter cows** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May 12, 1956 | 6 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 16 | 7 | 27 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 17 | 19 | 25 |
| May 4, 1956 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 14 | 9 | 28 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 15 | 19 | 25 |
| May 13, 1955 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 14 | 17 | 5 | 35 | 15 | 10 | 35 | 20 | 15 | 40 |

# CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | Chicago | | | Kansas City | | | Omaha | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | 14 1955 | 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | 14 1955 | 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | 14 1955 |
| **Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers** | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers – | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime 900–1100# | 23.58 | 23.78 | 25.55 | 23.00 | 22.92 | 24.58 | 23.25 | 23.70 | 25.12 |
| 1100–1300 | 24.00 | 24.02 | 26.45 | 22.45 | 22.80 | 24.82 | 22.98 | 23.52 | 25.38 |
| Choice 900–1100 | 21.08 | 20.90 | 23.55 | 20.62 | 20.55 | 22.20 | 20.35 | 20.62 | 22.08 |
| 1100–1300 | 21.08 | 20.88 | 23.55 | 20.25 | 20.40 | 22.20 | 20.32 | 20.62 | 22.08 |
| Good 900–1100 | 18.28 | 18.12 | 20.30 | 17.95 | 17.75 | 19.15 | 17.38 | 17.45 | 18.82 |
| Com'l. All wts. | 15.75 | 15.78 | 17.15 | 15.70 | 15.50 | 16.28 | 15.00 | 15.12 | 16.50 |
| Heifers – | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime 600–800# | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice " " | 19.82 | 19.85 | 21.72 | 19.98 | 19.75 | 20.80 | 20.10 | 20.00 | 21.42 |
| Good 500–900 | 17.84 | 17.74 | 19.51 | 17.65 | 17.50 | 17.95 | 17.50 | 17.50 | 18.60 |
| Com'l. All wts. | 15.35 | 15.30 | 16.80 | 15.25 | 15.25 | 15.50 | 15.00 | 15.00 | 15.60 |
| Cows – All weights | | | | | | | | | |
| Commercial | 13.50 | 13.32 | 13.68 | 13.20 | 12.75 | 12.48 | 12.75 | 12.75 | 12.32 |
| Utility | 12.15 | 11.92 | 12.05 | 11.90 | 11.50 | 10.98 | 11.68 | 11.62 | 10.55 |
| Canner & Cutter | 10.75 | 10.60 | 10.40 | 10.48 | 10.12 | 9.10 | 10.30 | 10.25 | 8.58 |
| Bulls – All weights – | | | | | | | | | |
| Good | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 | -- | -- | -- | 12.98 | 13.12 | 12.25 |
| Utility & Commercial | 15.10 | 15.15 | 14.88 | 13.88 | 13.80 | 12.85 | 13.65 | 13.75 | 13.12 |
| Vealers – All weights – | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice & Prime | 24.80 | 24.30 | 25.80 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 20.50 | 21.00 | 21.00 | 20.00 |
| Com'l. & Good | 19.80 | 19.10 | 20.40 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 16.10 | 16.50 | 16.50 | 16.00 |
| Calves – 500# down | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice & Prime | 20.80 | 20.50 | 21.50 | 18.75 | 18.70 | 18.05 | 18.50 | 18.50 | 18.50 |
| Com'l. & Good | 16.30 | 15.90 | 17.10 | 16.15 | 15.75 | 15.25 | 15.00 | 15.00 | 14.50 |
| **Feeder and stocker cattle and calves** | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers – | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice 500–800# | 19.88 | 19.75 | 22.55 | 20.38 | 19.75 | 22.50 | 19.75 | 19.22 | 22.45 |
| Good " " | 17.38 | 17.25 | 20.52 | 18.25 | 17.75 | 19.35 | 17.25 | 16.75 | 19.70 |
| Medium 500–1000 | 15.50 | 15.50 | 17.25 | 16.00 | 15.50 | 16.10 | 14.75 | 14.25 | 16.80 |
| Heifers – | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice 500–750 | 17.25 | 17.25 | 19.50 | 18.00 | 17.75 | 18.60 | 17.38 | 17.00 | 18.60 |
| Med. & Gd. " " | 14.50 | 14.50 | 16.25 | 15.50 | 15.00 | 15.45 | 14.88 | 14.38 | 15.45 |
| Cows – All weights – | | | | | | | | | |
| Medium & Good | -- | -- | -- | 11.50 | 11.50 | 11.00 | 11.50 | 11.38 | 10.40 |
| Calves – 300–500# – | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers – | | | | | | | | | |
| Good & Choice | 21.00 | 21.00 | 22.00 | 20.00 | 19.75 | 20.85 | 19.50 | 19.25 | 21.45 |
| Heifers – | | | | | | | | | |
| Good & Choice | 17.50 | 17.50 | 19.00 | 17.50 | 17.25 | 17.85 | 16.62 | 16.38 | 17.90 |

# HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | | Chicago | | | Interior Iowa and southern Minnesota | | | Indianapolis | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | 14 1955 | 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | 14 1955 | 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | 14 1955 |
| Barrows and gilts – | | | | | | | | | | |
| U.S.No.1 | 160-180# | 14.45 | 14.18 | 16.90 | 13.42 | 12.98 | 15.29 | 14.42 | 14.10 | 17.08 |
| 2 and 3 | 180-200 | 15.36 | 15.11 | 17.86 | 14.88 | 14.40 | 16.55 | 15.78 | 15.40 | 17.95 |
| | 200-220 | 15.74 | 15.46 | 17.85 | 15.31 | 14.87 | 16.80 | 15.88 | 15.52 | 17.90 |
| | 220-240 | 15.70 | 15.38 | 17.60 | 15.09 | 14.65 | 16.70 | 15.85 | 15.48 | 17.72 |
| | 240-270 | 15.40 | 15.18 | 16.98 | 14.70 | 14.25 | 16.21 | 15.42 | 15.02 | 16.95 |
| | 270-300 | 15.05 | 14.88 | 16.42 | 14.13 | 13.75 | 15.58 | 14.92 | 14.48 | 16.20 |
| Sows – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 300-330# | 14.18 | 13.85 | 15.10 | 13.83 | 13.35 | 14.22 | 13.45 | 13.60 | 14.45 |
| | 360-400 | 13.40 | 13.00 | 14.30 | 13.32 | 12.88 | 13.33 | 12.92 | 13.18 | 13.68 |
| | 450-550 | 12.28 | 12.05 | 12.95 | 12.22 | 11.82 | 12.08 | 12.00 | 11.78 | 12.65 |
| Pigs (stocker and feeder)– | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gd. & Ch. | 70-120# | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

| Classification | | Omaha | | | St. Louis National Stock Yards | | | Sioux City | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Barrows and gilts – | | | | | | | | | | |
| U.S.No.1 | 160-180# | -- | -- | -- | 14.95 | 14.75 | 17.34 | -- | -- | -- |
| 2 and 3 | 180-200 | 15.72 | 15.62 | 17.40 | 15.61 | 15.44 | 17.65 | 15.46 | 15.38 | 16.88 |
| | 200-220 | 15.72 | 15.62 | 17.40 | 15.64 | 15.43 | 17.52 | 15.78 | 15.60 | 17.05 |
| | 220-240 | 15.72 | 15.62 | 17.40 | 15.65 | 15.39 | 17.28 | 15.78 | 15.58 | 16.88 |
| | 240-270 | 15.40 | 15.18 | 16.75 | 15.22 | 15.14 | 16.78 | 15.42 | 15.18 | 16.32 |
| | 270-300 | 15.00 | 14.78 | 15.82 | 14.58 | 14.54 | 16.15 | 14.82 | 14.50 | 15.45 |
| Sows – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 300-330# | 14.18 | 13.90 | 14.85 | 13.58 | 13.38 | 14.40 | 14.55 | 14.20 | 14.45 |
| | 360-400 | 13.65 | 13.55 | 13.60 | 13.20 | 13.00 | 13.78 | 13.98 | 13.50 | 13.25 |
| | 450-550 | 12.60 | 12.60 | 12.48 | 12.40 | 12.20 | 12.58 | 12.60 | 12.32 | 11.82 |
| Pigs (stocker & feeder)– | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gd. & Ch. | 70-120# | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

| Classification | | S. St. Paul | | | Baltimore | | | N. Portland | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Barrows and gilts – | | | | | | | | | | |
| U.S.No.1 | 160-180# | 15.98 | 15.12 | 17.28 | 16.00 | 15.97 | 18.25 | 16.72 | 16.62 | 19.50 |
| 2 and 3 | 180-200 | 16.18 | 15.80 | 17.40 | 16.31 | 16.56 | 18.62 | 17.22 | 17.00 | 19.88 |
| | 200-220 | 16.18 | 15.80 | 17.40 | 16.31 | 16.56 | 18.62 | 17.22 | 17.00 | 19.88 |
| | 220-240 | 16.15 | 15.75 | 17.02 | 15.94 | 16.19 | 18.25 | 16.84 | 16.75 | 19.75 |
| | 240-270 | 15.88 | 15.48 | 16.35 | 15.50 | 15.72 | 17.59 | 15.72 | 15.62 | 18.62 |
| | 270-300 | 15.18 | 14.55 | 15.68 | -- | 14.59 | 16.62 | 15.34 | 15.25 | 17.88 |
| Sows – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 300-330# | 14.38 | 14.12 | 14.72 | 12.78 | 12.69 | 14.09 | 14.00 | 14.00 | 16.00 |
| | 360-400 | 13.38 | 13.12 | 13.75 | 12.56 | 12.56 | 14.09 | 12.88 | 12.88 | 15.12 |
| | 450-550 | 12.50 | 12.20 | 12.52 | 11.56 | 11.50 | 12.12 | 11.50 | 11.50 | 14.25 |
| Pigs (stocker & feeder)– | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gd. & Ch. | 70-120# | 14.20 | 14.05 | 17.50 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

## HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

| Week ended | Chicago | St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards | Kansas City | Omaha | Sioux City | S. St. Joseph | S. St. Paul | Indianapolis | 8-mkts. combined |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AVERAGE COST - | | | | Dollars per 100 pounds | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts — May 12,1956 | 15.29 | 15.42 | 15.39 | 15.36 | 15.38 | 15.38 | 15.58 | 15.68 | 15.45 |
| May 5,1956 | 15.16 | 15.19 | 15.23 | 15.22 | 15.14 | 15.27 | 15.14 | 15.30 | 15.20 |
| May 14,1955 | 16.95 | 17.26 | 17.01 | 16.72 | 16.36 | 16.93 | 16.49 | 17.50 | 16.94 |
| Sows — May 12,1956 | 12.87 | 12.84 | 12.97 | 13.40 | 13.61 | 13.47 | 13.42 | 12.05 | 13.02 |
| May 5,1956 | 12.66 | 12.72 | 12.74 | 13.34 | 13.16 | 13.17 | 13.09 | 12.15 | 12.81 |
| May 14,1955 | 13.59 | 13.19 | 13.25 | 13.36 | 12.97 | 13.45 | 13.54 | 12.95 | 13.31 |
| AVERAGE WEIGHT - | | | | Pounds | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts — May 12,1956 | 232 | 217 | 219 | 225 | 227 | 216 | 224 | 224 | 223 |
| May 5,1956 | 231 | 218 | 218 | 224 | 229 | 216 | 225 | 224 | 223 |
| May 14,1955 | 244 | 218 | 226 | 234 | 240 | 225 | 233 | 225 | 230 |
| Sows — May 12,1956 | 419 | 413 | 412 | 382 | 375 | 385 | 378 | 439 | 401 |
| May 5,1956 | 419 | 408 | 413 | 389 | 379 | 382 | 383 | 439 | 405 |
| May 14,1955 | 426 | 416 | 432 | 385 | 385 | 387 | 369 | 450 | 402 |
| NUMBER OF HEAD - | | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts — May 12,1956 | 27338 | 58295 | 12004 | 27481 | 18500 | 23892 | 37439 | 34216 | 239165 |
| May 5,1956 | 31581 | 56896 | 11053 | 27030 | 21022 | 22056 | 41191 | 38403 | 249232 |
| May 14,1955 | 36269 | 42110 | 6938 | 25936 | 18827 | 20747 | 28685 | 31178 | 210690 |
| Sows — May 12,1956 | 6525 | 4010 | 652 | 5247 | 3234 | 2067 | 5960 | 4838 | 32533 |
| May 5,1956 | 7323 | 3684 | 660 | 4535 | 2743 | 1885 | 5865 | 5300 | 31995 |
| May 14,1955 | 5627 | 2982 | 482 | 6584 | 3745 | 2033 | 5810 | 4244 | 31507 |
| SOWS | | | | Percentage of total | | | | | |
| May 12,1956 | 19 | 6 | 5 | 16 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 12 | 12 |
| May 5,1956 | 19 | 6 | 6 | 14 | 12 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 11 |
| May 14,1955 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 20 | 17 | 9 | 17 | 12 | 13 |

1/ Weighted average.

## WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

| | Hog products 1/ | Hog prices 2/ | Gross spread or margin 3/ |
|---|---|---|---|
| May 12, 1956 | $17.34 | $15.74 | $1.60 |
| May 5, 1956 | 17.22 | 15.46 | 1.76 |
| May 14, 1955 | 19.69 | 17.85 | 1.84 |

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U.S.No.1, 2 and 3 hogs 200-220# wt.Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

## HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

| Week ended | Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds | Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel | Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts |
|---|---|---|---|
| May 12, 1956 | 15.29 | 151.6 | 10.1 |
| May 5, 1956 | 15.16 | 153.2 | 9.9 |
| May 14, 1955 | 16.95 | 148.6 | 11.4 |

1/ Simple average price.

## EARLY LAMB SITUATION, MAY 1, 1956

Early lambs on May 1 were generally in good condition in most early lamb States, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Lambs made good progress despite the slow growth of new feed in some sections. Dry, cold weather earlier this spring held back development of pasture and range feed, but conditions improved during April in most areas, with marked improvement in the West. In California, the early lamb crop developed reasonably well, although feed supplies were short in some range areas due to dry, cold weather. In Texas, lamb condition has been maintained by heavy supplemental feeding since pastures in the sheep areas have been extremely short. Cold weather and lack of moisture in the Pacific Northwest retarded pasture feed until about April 1. Since that date, however, feed has developed rapidly and lambs responded with good progress. In the Southeastern States, the condition of lambs is reported good, although pastures made slow progress in most areas until mid-April.

Throughout most of the early lamb States, weather conditions were generally unfavorable for development of pasture and range feed until about April 1. Since that date, both temperature and moisture conditions have improved, and pasture feed supplies are becoming more abundant. Rainfall in California about mid-April broke a prolonged drought in the range area and feed supplies improved. Ranges and pastures in the sheep areas of Texas have been very dry. Rains in the Eastern Plateau area about the end of April brought some relief, but more moisture is needed. Pastures have made good growth since April 1 in the Pacific Northwest. Weather conditions have been cold and dry in the Southeastern States during early spring, however, pastures have made rapid recovery since mid-April.

Marketings of early lambs from most sections will be earlier than last year. All of the Arizona lambs have been marketed. Eastern shipments of California lambs are about equal to a year ago, with larger marketings occurring in March, but a sharply lower volume in late April. In Texas, a larger proportion than usual of the total marketings consist of new crop lambs. In the Pacific Northwest, marketings are not expected to reach peak proportions until late July. In the Southeastern States movement to market may be a bit earlier than last year due mainly to the more uniform lambing season this spring.

Conditions in early lamb States about May 1 are reported as follows:

California: The early lamb crop has developed reasonably well. The range area has improved since mid-April. Good rainfall has helped to prolong the season in the Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley. Early feeder lambs are moving to irrigated pastures which should have good feed this season. Most of the remaining lambs should move to market quite uniformly. High quality feed is producing lambs of good finish, but at lighter weights than usual.

Arizona: The early lamb crop has been marketed. Weather conditions were favorable with very little cold weather and rain.

Texas: Marketings of spring lambs and yearlings during April were substantially below a year ago because of the smaller number carried over. Feed supplies are short over most of the sheep producing areas. Heavy supplemental feeding has been necessary to get yearlings or early lambs in slaughter flesh. Rains over the Eastern Plateau at the end of April started grass, but additional rain is needed to maintain development of green feed.

Southeastern States: Pastures were slow to start this spring in most areas due to dry, cool weather. However, more normal rainfall and warmer weather in April stimulated pasture growth and lambs showed marked improvement. Marketings are expected to be earlier than last year due to more uniform lambing season throughout the area. Kentucky: Pasture grass is short due to cool weather and supplemental feeding has been necessary to develop lambs for early market. Marketings will be earlier than last year when lambing was late. Tennessee: Favorable spring weather has produced ample feed and lambs have made good growth. The movement of lambs is earlier and heavier than last year, with the peak of marketings expected in early June.

Continued on Page 398.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

| | | Chicago | Omaha | Kansas City | Fort Worth | Denver | Ogden & North Salt Lake | South San Francisco |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LAMBS (SPRING) - | | | | | | | | |
| Choice and Prime | May 12, 1956 | -- | 26.75 | 27.60 | -- | 27.52 | 25.40 | 24.69 |
| | May 5, 1956 | -- | 25.90 | 26.28 | -- | 25.35 | 23.00 | 23.12 |
| | May 14, 1955 | 19.72* | 21.42 | 21.28 | -- | 21.78 | 20.00 | 20.75 |
| Good and Choice | May 12, 1956 | -- | 24.80 | 25.90 | 24.95 | 25.75 | 24.15 | 24.06 |
| | May 5, 1956 | -- | 24.05 | 24.72 | 23.65 | 23.88 | 21.75 | 22.50 |
| | May 14, 1955 | 18.72* | 20.50 | 20.08 | 20.05 | 20.28 | 18.75 | 19.75 |
| LAMBS - 105# down (SHORN) - | | | | | | | | |
| Choice and Prime | May 12, 1956 | 24.62 | 23.90 | 23.85 | -- | 24.30 | 19.25 | -- |
| | May 5, 1956 | 22.45 | 22.45 | 23.22 | -- | 22.49 | 18.75 | -- |
| | May 14, 1955 | 18.58 | -- | 16.30 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Good and Choice | May 12, 1956 | 23.88 | 22.52 | 21.85 | 21.30 | 22.75 | 17.50 | -- |
| | May 5, 1956 | 21.75 | 21.30 | 21.25 | 19.50 | 20.90 | 17.25 | -- |
| | May 14, 1955 | 17.65 | 16.38 | 14.75 | 15.15 | -- | 15.00 | -- |
| EWES (SHORN) - | | | | | | | | |
| Good and Choice | May 12, 1956 | 5.50 | 5.50 | 5.38 | -- | 6.62 | 5.75 | 4.50 |
| | May 5, 1956 | 5.60 | 6.00 | 5.32 | -- | 6.62 | 5.50 | 4.50 |
| | May 14, 1955 | 6.00 | 4.58 | 5.18 | -- | 6.75 | -- | -- |
| Cull and Utility | May 12, 1956 | 4.25 | 4.00 | 4.12 | -- | 4.00 | 3.25 | 3.00 |
| | May 5, 1956 | 4.25 | 4.38 | 4.08 | -- | 4.00 | 3.25 | 3.00 |
| | May 14, 1955 | 4.75 | 3.25 | 3.92 | -- | 4.62 | -- | -- |
| FEEDER LAMBS - | | | | | | | | |
| Good and Choice | May 12, 1956 | -- | -- | -- | 15.75 | -- | -- | -- |
| | May 5, 1956 | -- | -- | -- | 15.40 | -- | -- | -- |
| | May 14, 1955 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

*Wooled basis.

EARLY LAMB SITUATION, MAY 1, 1956 - Continued from page 397.

Virginia: April was much colder than normal. Pastures were slow in starting, and not until the end of April were they providing much forage. Feed supplies, however, were generally ample. Lambs have made satisfactory progress, better than usual in the eastern counties. Marketings of lambs will be earlier than last year, with the peak movement coming in June.

Missouri: Early lambs are in good condition. Pastures have been slow in starting in the southern part of the State and rain is needed to improve pastures. Sheep are still on winter feed in the northern half of the State. Marketings will be earlier than last year.

Northwestern States: Growth of lambs was slow earlier in the season, but made rapid improvement with mild, open weather during April. Idaho: Weather conditions have been favorable, and although grasses have been dry and have set back lambs in some of the lower sections, lambs have maintained their development for the most part. Marketings are expected to reach a peak about mid-August. Washington: Early lambs on May 1 were in good condition. Lack of green feed before April 1 slowed the development of early lambs, but they have made good gains since that date. Losses of lambs were higher than last year. Early marketings are expected to be smaller than last year, with a peak movement coming in August. Oregon: Range and pasture feeds started late, but made more than usual seasonal improvement during April as mild open weather prevailed. Early lambs made good gains during April and marketings are expected to be a bit earlier than last year, with the peak coming in mid-July.

# NEW YORK WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

## Western Dressed Fresh Meats

Supplies of Western dressed steer beef were normal. Veal unloads were moderate early, but subsequently assumed normal proportions. Volume of cow beef and fresh pork was moderate, with the lamb supply mostly moderate to small. Movement of beef was rather slow and this class was under pressure. Action also lagged on upper grades of veal. Sellers encountered little difficulty clearing lamb and fresh pork stocks although resistance was encountered on the former in some instances in the face of higher asking prices. The current week's trade was featured by daily advances on lamb and a strong trend on most other classes. Compared with the previous week: Steer beef unevenly 50¢ higher to $1.00 lower; cow beef unchanged; veal steady to $1.00 higher; calf $2.00 up in spots; old crop and spring lamb $2.00 to $5.00 higher; pork loins steady to $1.00 or more higher; other fresh pork cuts steady to $2.00 higher.

Prime steer carcasses closed about $1.00 lower. Good carcasses declined 50¢, but small advances were noted on Choice 700-800# carcasses. Forequarter meat, particularly arm chucks, moved at a disappointingly slow pace despite sharp price concessions.

All grades and weights of veal and calf were represented, with veal making up the bulk. Buyer preference centered on lower grades which sold strong to higher, but action on upper grades lagged, with prices weak toward the close. Trading was active on lamb, but purchases were held to essential requirements. A moderate to small supply consisted mainly of spring lamb carcasses. Sharp upturns were registered, with greatest advance on offerings around 56#.

Early clearances of fresh pork seemed assured as demand expanded somewhat after Wednesday. Favorable weather and relatively attractive prices were stabilizing factors. Loins closed mostly higher as prices bounded back following some easiness on Monday.

## Locally Dressed Fresh Meats

Slaughter of cattle and calves reached the largest weekly volume of the year. The hog kill was slightly larger than that of the previous week with a moderate increase in the lamb slaughter. Local wholesale interests encountered a generally fair demand for locally dressed offerings and prices of most classes held steady. Principal exception was a progressive upturn on lamb. Trading on kosher meats was fair to slow with prices carrying a weak undertone.

Steer beef supply included all grades and weights. Prime offerings increased but fewer heavy carcasses were included than recently. Rounds moved dependably, but easiness developed on loin cuts, and movement of arm chucks was disappointingly slow. Declines of around $2.00 were registered on kosher forequarters and arm chucks, with slow action late in the week.

The supply of veal and calf hindsaddles was normal, but price trend was uneven. The practical top was about $1.00 off, but lower grade offerings cleared readily at strong to $1.00 higher prices. Conditions on kosher veal foresaddles were comparable. Prices on all grades and weights of spring lamb turned upward. Early upturns on kosher spring lamb foresaddles were well sustained.

Most primal fresh pork cuts closed higher for the week. Early full clearances seemed assured, with fresh loins setting the pace as most retail outlets competed actively for this item. Fresh loins of all weights closed strong to instances higher for the week.

## CHICAGO WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Moderate to normal beef, veal and fresh pork supplies were fully sufficient for demand. Choice beef predominated with some increase in Prime. Veal carcasses over 80# represented bulk of the moderate supplies. Volume of both spring and old crop lamb was well below normal, and virtually lacking in many wholesale houses. Although local pork trading was slow, prices of most cuts worked higher after mid-week on the strength of broadened shipping outlets. Below normal volume and daily advancing replacement costs influenced higher lamb prices in spite of buyer resistance, with closing quotations highest since May 17, 1954. Lamb forequarters and loins cleared readily, other cuts slow. Lamb salesmen held carcass cutting to a minimum because of inadequate prices of most cuts. Veal carcasses under 80#, particularly those in the lower grades, usually sold dependably, otherwise trading was only moderately active. Trading for carcass beef and cuts was slow. Squarecut beef chucks and loins were especially hard to move, but persistent selling and small price concessions kept daily clearances close to normal. Beef rounds were in best demand, followed closely by ribs which were much improved over last week. Some beef loins and chucks may be carried over, otherwise fresh meat clearances will be good. Compared to last Thursday's close: Commercial beef about steady, other grades 50¢ to $1.00 lower; veal $1.00 higher; lamb $3.00-4.00 higher; pork loins 8-16# $3.00-3.50 higher; spareribs 3# and down steady to 50¢ higher; Boston butts 4-8# steady to $1.00 lower. Choice and Prime squarecut beef chucks cleared at $26.00-28.00; same grades rounds $41.00-43.00; Prime loins $80.00-86.00, Choice $59.00-64.00; Prime ribs $55.00-57.00; Choice $40.00-43.00; Choice and Prime Kosher style chucks $27.00-29.00. Lamb hindsaddles brought $60.00-66.00; legs $50.00-55.00; loins $75.00-78.00; hotel ribs $65.00-70.00.

## PACIFIC COAST WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Supplies of most beef were liberal, Good and Choice above 600# predominated. Veal and calf carcasses continued in moderate to light supply with spring lamb barely adequate. Fresh and cured pork cuts were liberal to slightly excessive. Trading was slow to fair on most beef and pork, while veal, calf and spring lamb trade was fairly active. Compared with last Friday: Most beef steady; veal and calf steady to $1.00 lower; spring lamb strong to $4.00 higher; pork mostly steady except loins $1.00-2.00 lower in California and $2.00 higher in the Northwest; lard steady to 50¢ lower at Los Angeles and $1.00 higher in the Northwest.

Choice steer carcasses under 700# brought $32.50-36.00, 700-800# $32.00-33.00; Good 500-700# $31.00-34.00. Commercial cow beef brought $25.00-28.00, few soft-boned to $30.00 at San Francisco and in the Northwest; Utility $24.00-28.00; Canner and Cutter $20.00-25.00. Good and Choice veal carcasses sold from $38.00-43.00 in California and $40.00-47.00 in the Northwest; same grades calf under 300# $34.00-39.00. Choice and Prime spring lamb under 55# brought $47.00-52.00, over 55# scarce. Closely trimmed pork loins under 16# brought mostly $42.00-50.00; shoulders $25.00-32.00, the higher price at San Francisco only; fresh skinned hams under 18# $44.00-50.00; Boston butts under 8# $32.00-38.00; spareribs under 3# $34.00-44.00, few to $46.00 at San Francisco; smoked skinned hams under 18# $46.00-56.00; slab bacon under 10# $29.00-42.00; sliced 1# bacon $36.00-44.00; lard in 1# cartons $14.50-19.00.

# WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | | New York | | | Chicago | | | San Francisco | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | May 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | May 14 1955 | May 12 1956 | May 5 1956 | May 14 1955 |
| Beef – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steer – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 600–700# | 40.50 | 41.40 | -- | 37.90 | 38.90 | 43.60 | -- | -- | -- |
| | 700–800 | 39.50 | 39.90 | 43.90 | 37.90 | 38.90 | 44.85 | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | 500–600 | -- | -- | -- | 34.00 | 34.75 | 38.10 | 35.50 | 35.50 | 40.50 |
| | 600–700 | 36.00 | 35.75 | 40.20 | 34.00 | 34.75 | 38.50 | 34.00 | 34.00 | 39.50 |
| Good | 350–600 | 32.75 | 32.70 | 35.60 | 31.95 | 32.15 | 35.40 | 33.00 | 33.00 | 38.00 |
| Com'l. | " " | 28.00 | 28.00 | 31.80 | 29.00 | 29.00 | 32.40 | 30.00 | 30.00 | 35.00 |
| Cow, all wts. – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Commercial | | 28.00 | 28.00 | 30.00 | -- | -- | -- | 28.50 | 28.50 | 30.00 |
| Utility | | 26.50 | 26.50 | 27.50 | -- | -- | -- | 25.50 | 25.50 | 26.50 |
| Veal – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 80–110# | 41.00 | 41.00 | 43.50 | 42.90 | 42.50 | 43.50 | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | " " | 38.00 | 37.40 | 37.40 | 38.40 | 38.00 | 40.10 | -- | -- | -- |
| Good | " " | 34.50 | 34.00 | 34.00 | 35.40 | 35.00 | 37.60 | 41.00 | 41.00 | 39.00 |
| Spring lamb – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 40–50# | 52.60 | 49.10 | 43.00 | 48.95* | 44.90* | 41.00* | 49.00 | 45.20 | 41.00 |
| | 50–60 | -- | -- | -- | 47.00* | 43.20* | 37.90* | 47.00 | 43.50 | 39.00 |
| Choice | 40–50 | 52.60 | 49.10 | 40.50 | 48.95* | 44.90* | 40.00* | 48.00 | 44.20 | 40.00 |
| | 50–60 | -- | -- | -- | 47.00* | 43.20* | 36.90* | 46.50 | 42.90 | 38.00 |
| Good | all wts. | 49.70 | 47.40 | 38.12 | 45.00* | 41.35* | 34.90* | 46.00 | 42.20 | 38.50 |
| Pork – Fresh – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loins | 8–10# av. | 41.90 | 44.20 | 52.10 | 40.65 | 41.10 | 50.40 | 48.00 | 50.00 | 56.00 |
| | 10–12 " | 41.90 | 44.20 | 52.10 | 40.65 | 41.10 | 50.40 | 49.50 | 51.00 | 55.40 |
| | 12–16 " | 41.40 | 44.00 | 50.30 | 39.60 | 40.05 | 48.20 | 48.50 | 50.50 | 55.00 |
| Butts | 4–8 " | 32.00 | 30.70 | 34.90 | 28.05 | 28.85 | 32.50 | 36.00 | 36.00 | 39.50 |
| Pork – Cured – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hams, smk., skd. – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12–16# av. | 48.50 | 49.00 | 52.50 | 51.85 | 51.95 | 50.95 | 54.00 | 54.00 | 57.00 |
| | 16–18 " | 46.00 | 46.00 | 48.50 | 50.25 | 50.10 | 49.45 | 52.00 | 52.00 | 54.00 |
| | 18–20 " | -- | -- | -- | 50.05 | 50.10 | 47.90 | -- | -- | -- |
| Bacon, smk., slab – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 6–8# av. | -- | -- | -- | 33.50 | 33.20 | 43.80 | 40.00 | 40.00 | 51.00 |
| | 8–10 " | 32.00 | 32.00 | 40.50 | 32.00 | 31.55 | 41.50 | 38.00 | 38.00 | 48.00 |
| Sliced 1 # pkg. | | 38.50 | 38.50 | 49.00 | 38.75 | 38.60 | 50.60 | 42.00 | 42.00 | 51.00 |
| Picnics, smoked – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4–8# av. | 25.50 | 26.50 | 31.50 | 30.85 | 30.75 | 34.35 | 30.00 | 30.00 | 38.00 |
| Backs, D. S. – | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 16–20# av. | 14.00 | 14.00 | 15.50 | 12.45 | 12.35 | 11.50 | -- | -- | -- |
| Lard, 1# cartons – | | | | | | | | | | |
| Refined | | 17.00 | 16.62 | 17.00 | 16.55 | 16.50 | 15.75 | 18.25 | 18.25 | 18.50 |
| Substitutes | | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 27.00 | -- | -- | -- |

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed meats.
*Old-crop lamb.

# BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

Turnover of greasy domestic worsted wools in the Boston market continued slow as approximately twenty-five cars were sold. Prices held firm with most trading on 3/8s and 1/4 blood fleece wools. Very little spot territory wool was available on the Boston market. Movement of scoured wools and noils has been fairly active with prices about steady. Continued activity featured trading in the territory States with topmakers buying the wool as shorn. Buying in the fleece wool States was moderate. A little more activity was reported in Texas on 12 months wool. Prices at Australian markets were firm; New Zealand unchanged and firm; with a slight advance in the Cape markets. Japan dominated with Bradford supporting in Australian and Cape markets. South American prices were unchanged from a week ago.

Fleece Wools - Delaine wools sold at $1.30 while fine graded, good French combing brought $1.25, clean basis. Graded fleece 1/2 blood cashed from $1.13-1.15. Three eighths good French combing and staple sold for $1.02-1.05 and 1/4 blood wools brought 96¢-$1.00 clean basis. Mixed lots of 3/8s and 1/4 blood wools ranged from 49-54¢ grease basis and estimated to cost from 95¢-$1.02 clean basis. A small lot of exceptionally choice 3/8s baby combing sold for 98¢ clean.

Territory Wools - Supply of spot territory wools was limited and slow to move. However, a fair quantity of graded good French and staple 1/2 blood wools sold for $1.18-1.20 clean. A New Mexico 64/70s good French and staple brought $1.30 clean. Buyers for topmakers were still active in the West, buying the wool as shorn and doing some contracting in the Northern areas. Several thousand fleeces were reported sold in Montana for 46-7/8¢. Wool was selling in Idaho for 44½¢. Further activity was reported in Utah, Nevada and Wyoming. Quarter blood Williamette Valley wools were reported selling for 47¢ to the grower and estimated to cost around 98¢ clean landed Boston.

Texas Wools - Some 8 months wools sold in Texas at firm prices. More activity was reported in 12 months wool although rain in some areas halted shearing. Average to good French combing wools were reported as selling around $1.27-1.28 clean, delivered Boston. Good French combing and staple was quoted at $1.30.

Mohair - A fair weight of mohair sold for export at 87½¢ while other sources quoted 86½¢ for adult hair and 97½¢ for kid hair.

Sales of CCC Wools - The Commodity Credit Corporation announced on May 10, that approximately 778,000 pounds of C.C.C.-owned wool were sold from bids received on a total of about 2,454,000 pounds. The principal grades, quantities and sales price ranges (before discounts, if any) follow:

| | Pounds | Price Range |
|---|---|---|
| Graded territory 1/2 blood average and good French | 33,429 | $1.103 |
| " " 1/4 " staple and good French 48/50s | 59,025 | 1.04 |
| " " 1/4 " average French 48/50s | 129,476 | $ .85 - .93 |
| " " low 1/4 blood | 122,286 | .87 - .93 |
| Graded fleece 3/8s blood staple and good French | 79,000 | 1.06375 |
| " " 1/4 " " " " " 50/54s | 114,901 | .983-1.0025 |
| " " 1/4 " " " " " 48/50s | 44,945 | .971- .973 |
| Tags, crutchings, locks, eyebrows, karakul | 10,878X | .10-.20 grease |
| Scoured shorn territory 3/8s blood staple and gd. French | 14,497 | 1.08 |
| " " woolen type 12 months 60/64s | 46,750 | 1.00 -1.05 |
| Pulled grease worsted type 56/58s | 23,156 | 1.04 |
| " scoured " " 58s | 15,702 | 1.10 |
| " " " " 56/58s | 17,243 | 1.05 -1.08 |
| " " " " 50/56s | 23,742X | 1.001 |

(X - No more of this class left in inventory)

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER - MEAT AND LARD PRODUCTION, 1954 - 1955

Red meat production in 1955 reached a new all time peak at 26.9 billion pounds, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Total meat production (commercial plus farm slaughter) for the year was 7 percent more than the previous record of 25.2 billion pounds in 1954. Beef production in 1955 reached a new record of 13.6 billion pounds, exceeding the previous record of a year ago by 5 percent. Veal production totaled 1,578 million pounds, 4 percent less than a year earlier. Mutton and lamb totaled 758 million pounds, 3 percent greater than a year earlier. Pork production totaled 11.0 billion pounds which was 11 percent more than in 1954. Beef accounted for 50 percent of the total meat produced in 1955, while pork made up 41 percent. Veal accounted for 6 percent and mutton and lamb contributed 3 percent. Lard production in 1955 totaled 2.7 billion pounds, compared with 2.3 billion pounds in 1954.

The number of cattle slaughtered in 1955 was 3 percent above 1954. Cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection was up 3 percent; other wholesale and retail was up 2 percent, while farm slaughter was down 1 percent. Calf slaughter for 1955 was 3 percent less than a year earlier. Slaughter of calves under Federal inspection down 1 percent; other wholesale and retail down 6 percent and farm slaughter down 7 percent from a year ago. The total number of sheep and lambs slaughtered in 1955 was 2 percent more than the previous year. The number slaughtered under Federal inspection was 2 percent above a year ago; other wholesale and retail slaughter was up 3 percent and farm slaughter was up 1 percent. Compared with a year ago, the 1955 total slaughter of hogs was 13 percent greater. Slaughter in Federally inspected plants was 16 percent greater than in 1954; other wholesale and retail slaughter was up 8 percent and farm slaughter was up 3 percent from a year earlier. Cattle and sheep and lambs were slaughtered at heavier weights than a year ago, but calves and hogs were slaughtered at lighter weights. Slaughter cattle averaged 15 pounds heavier than in 1954. Sheep and lambs averaged 1 pound heavier than a year ago. The average live weight of calves was 3 pounds less than the previous year and hogs averaged 2 pounds lighter. The 1955 lard yield at 13.8 pounds per hundred pounds of live weight compares with 13.6 pounds in 1954.

UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, 1954-55

| Species and class of slaughter | 1954 | | | 1955 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Head | Av. live weight | Total live weight | Head | Av. live weight | Total live weight |
| CATTLE | Thous. | Lb. | Mil.lb. | Thous | Lb. | Mil.lb. |
| Federally inspected | 18,476 | 958 | 17,704 | 19,055 | 975 | 18,578 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 6,541 | 834 | 5,454 | 6,667 | 843 | 5,623 |
| Farm | 872 | 813 | 709 | 861 | 807 | 695 |
| Total | 25,889 | 922 | 23,867 | 26,583 | 937 | 24,896 |
| CALVES | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 7,573 | 223 | 1,689 | 7,499 | 218 | 1,632 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 5,173 | 217 | 1,122 | 4,878 | 217 | 1,057 |
| Farm | 524 | 319 | 167 | 489 | 324 | 159 |
| Total | 13,270 | 224 | 2,978 | 12,866 | 221 | 2,848 |

UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, 1954 - 1955

| Species and class of slaughter | 1954 Head | 1954 Av. live weight | 1954 Total live weight | 1955 Head | 1955 Av. live weight | 1955 Total live weight |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Thous. | Lb. | Mil.lb. | Thous. | Lb. | Mil.lb. |
| SHEEP AND LAMBS | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 14,148 | 96 | 1,354 | 14,383 | 96 | 1,387 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 1,772 | 90 | 160 | 1,832 | 92 | 169 |
| Farm | 335 | 85 | 29 | 338 | 86 | 29 |
| Total | 16,255 | 95 | 1,543 | 16,553 | 96 | 1,585 |
| HOGS | | | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 52,894 | 244 | 12,902 | 61,370 | 241 | 14,778 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 11,933 | 222 | 2,652 | 12,846 | 220 | 2,825 |
| Farm | 6,668 | 245 | 1,634 | 6,842 | 244 | 1,667 |
| Total | 71,495 | 240 | 17,188 | 81,058 | 238 | 19,270 |

UNITED STATES MEAT AND LARD PRODUCTION[1] 1954-55

| Kind of meat and class of slaughter | 1954 Av. dressed weight[2] | 1954 Total dressed weight | 1955 Av. dressed weight[2] | 1955 Total dressed weight |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Lb. | Mil.lb. | Lb. | Mil.lb. |
| BEEF | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 526 | 9,681 | 537 | 10,195 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 447 | 2,920 | 453 | 3,018 |
| Farm | 415 | 362 | 412 | 355 |
| Total | 502 | 12,963 | 512 | 13,568 |
| VEAL | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 124 | 931 | 121 | 903 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 120 | 620 | 120 | 584 |
| Farm | 183 | 96 | 187 | 91 |
| Total | 124 | 1,647 | 123 | 1,578 |
| LAMB AND MUTTON | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 46 | 645 | 46 | 663 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 43 | 76 | 44 | 81 |
| Farm | 39 | 13 | 40 | 14 |
| Total | 45 | 734 | 46 | 758 |
| PORK (EXCLUDING LARD) | | | | |
| Federally inspected | 140 | 7,369 | 137 | 8,366 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 131 | 1,563 | 129 | 1,661 |
| Farm | 141 | 938 | 141 | 964 |
| Total | 138 | 9,870 | 136 | 10,991 |
| TOTAL MEAT | | 25,214 | | 26,895 |

| LARD[3] | Lard per 100 pounds Liveweight | Production Mil.lb. | Lard per 100 pounds Liveweight | Production Mil.lb. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Federally inspected | 14.2 Lb. | 1,831 | 14.5 Lb. | 2,140 |
| Other wholesale and retail | 10.9 " | 290 | 11.0 " | 312 |
| Farm | 12.8 " | 209 | 12.5 " | 208 |
| Total | 13.6 " | 2,330 | 13.8 " | 2,660 |

1/ Excludes animals condemned under Federal inspection. 2/ For pork, the average is pork production per head excluding lard.

3/ Includes rendered pork fat.

Stocker and feeder cattle and sheep received in several Corn Belt States 1/
April 1956, with comparisons

## Cattle and Calves

| State | Public Stock Yards April | | Direct April | | Total April | | Cumulative Total Jan. - Apr. incl. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 |
| Ohio | 7,371 | 7,818 | 4,438 | 2,618 | 11,809 | 10,436 | 40,990 | 32,672 |
| Indiana | 10,437 | 9,263 | 3,136 | 4,017 | 13,573 | 13,280 | 36,498 | 41,579 |
| Illinois | 20,602 | 26,501 | 35,812 | 33,071 | 56,414 | 59,572 | 210,066 | 205,861 |
| Michigan | 5,055 | 4,100 | 2,928 | 1,900 | 7,983 | 6,000 | 19,506 | 16,053 |
| Wisconsin | 1,185 | 391 | 860 | 907 | 2,045 | 1,298 | 7,821 | 3,453 |
| Minnesota | 7,402 | 10,902 | 6,056 | 5,778 | 13,458 | 16,680 | 66,786 | 72,840 |
| Iowa | 38,393 | 57,062 | 23,571 | 23,819 | 61,964 | 80,881 | 295,056 | 316,579 |
| South Dakota | 5,810 | 5,673 | 4,859 | 9,952 | 10,669 | 15,625 | 30,322 | 45,367 |
| Nebraska | 20,353 | 35,153 | 17,807 | 33,205 | 38,160 | 68,358 | 137,203 | 215,057 |
| Total 9 States | 116,608 | 156,863 | 99,467 | 115,267 | 216,075 | 272,130 | 844,248 | 949,461 |

## Sheep and Lambs

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ohio | 498 | 5,827 | 5,053 | 3,337 | 5,551 | 9,164 | 13,527 | 19,394 |
| Indiana | 229 | 924 | 1,755 | 797 | 1,984 | 1,721 | 6,519 | 9,627 |
| Illinois | 4,256 | 3,297 | 8,170 | 31,183 | 12,426 | 34,480 | 48,915 | 71,776 |
| Michigan | 277 | 466 | --- | 216 | 277 | 682 | 3,605 | 4,794 |
| Wisconsin | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 1,511 | 3,366 |
| Minnesota | 1,707 | 2,283 | 4,319 | 6,344 | 6,026 | 8,627 | 55,684 | 72,711 |
| Iowa | 23,644 | 13,698 | 34,578 | 27,434 | 58,222 | 41,132 | 261,896 | 235,509 |
| South Dakota | 2,746 | 608 | 2,595 | 10,437 | 5,341 | 11,045 | 30,783 | 52,984 |
| Nebraska | 4,659 | 17,181 | 20,251 | 32,432 | 24,910 | 49,613 | 112,530 | 167,361 |
| Total 9 States | 38,016 | 44,284 | 76,721 | 112,180 | 114,737 | 156,464 | 534,970 | 637,522 |

1/ Data in this report are obtained from offices of State Veterinarians. Under "Public Stockyards" are included stockers and feeders which were bought at stockyards markets. Under "Direct" are included stockers and feeders coming from other States from points other than public stockyards, some of which are inspected at public stockyards while stopping for feed, water, and rest en route.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
Agricultural Estimates Division
Washington, D. C.

## COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF MEATS AND LARD, APRIL 30, 1956

Refrigerated stocks of red meats declined seasonally during April to 855 million pounds. A year earlier, holdings totaled 822 million while the average for April 30 is 916 million pounds. Beef holdings, at 171 million pounds, were down 17 million from the month before. Pork, at 509 million pounds, was down 5 million, and holdings of other meats declined 1 million pounds to total 175 million pounds at month's end. Frozen pork was down to 395 million pounds or a reduction of 3 million since March 31. Last April, stocks totaled 400 million pounds while 409 million is average for this date. Dry salt pork stocks at 25 million pounds compare with 38 million a year ago April 30 and the average of 45 million pounds.

UNITED STATES STORAGE HOLDINGS OF MEATS AND LARD, APR. 30, 1956 WITH COMPARISONS
(Includes holdings in public, private and semi-private cold storage houses and meat packing plants)

| Commodity | Apr. 30 1956 | Mar. 31 1956 | Apr. 30 1955 | Apr. 30 1951-55 av. | Apr. 30, 1956 as % of Mar. 1956 | Apr. 1955 | Apr. 30 5-yr. av. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | | | |
| BEEF: | | | | | | | |
| Frozen | 161,736 | 178,672 | 123,491 | 159,487 | 91 | 131 | 101 |
| In cure, cured & smkd. | 9,465 | 9,776 | 8,416 | 10,084 | 97 | 112 | 94 |
| Total | 171,201 | 188,448 | 131,907 | 169,571 | 91 | 130 | 101 |
| PORK: | | | | | | | |
| Frozen | 395,214 | 398,631 | 399,534 | 409,166 | 99 | 99 | 97 |
| Dry salt, in cure and cured | 25,479 | 29,099 | 37,875 | 45,374 | 88 | 67 | 56 |
| Other, in cure, cured and smoked | 88,114 | 86,394 | 102,025 | 140,783 | 102 | 86 | 63 |
| Total | 508,807 | 514,124 | 539,434 | 595,323 | 99 | 94 | 85 |
| OTHER MEATS AND MEAT PRODUCTS: | | | | | | | |
| Sausage & sausage room products | 16,072 | 15,427 | 14,433 | 16,097 | 104 | 111 | 100 |
| Frozen lamb & mutton | 8,847 | 9,875 | 9,677 | 10,914 | 90 | 91 | 81 |
| Frozen veal | 16,029 | 17,300 | 11,942 | 12,211 | 93 | 134 | 131 |
| Canned meats & meat products | 75,782 | 70,945 | 60,012 | 55,554 | 107 | 126 | 136 |
| All edible offal | 58,558 | 63,126 | 54,269 | 56,242 | 93 | 108 | 104 |
| Total other meats & meat products | 175,288 | 176,673 | 150,333 | 151,018 | 99 | 117 | 116 |
| Total all meats | 855,296 | 879,245 | 821,674 | 915,912 | 97 | 104 | 93 |
| Lard, rendered & refined 1/ | 2/ | 232,719 | 140,352 | 151,928 | -- | -- | -- |
| GOVERNMENT HOLDINGS 3/ | | | | | | | |
| Pork | 7,531 | 7,344 | 9,457 | 2/ | 103 | 80 | -- |
| Beef | 3,211 | 6,197 | 7,192 | 2/ | 52 | 45 | -- |

1/ In dry and cold storage as reported by Bureau of Census.
2/ Not available.
3/ Government holdings are included in the totals and consist of reported stocks held by U.S.D.A., the Armed Services and other Government agencies.

LIVESTOCK MARKET REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 389

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Receipts at the 12 markets were about 19 percent larger than last week but were still below most recent weeks and were about 24 percent smaller than a year ago. The increase in receipts over last week was due to expanded marketing at Fort Worth which received approximately half of the 12-market supply. At most points slaughter lamb prices continued to advance through Wednesday, reaching new high levels since June 1953 at some markets. Later, however, the trade was very erratic, with closing prices ranging from as much as $1.25 lower to $2.50 higher. Wholesale dressed lamb prices advanced $2.00-5.00 and at Chicago late week prices were highest in two years. Receipts included an increased proportion of spring lambs, while wooled lambs became too scarce to quote at most points. Good and Choice old crop shorn lambs carrying No. 2 to fall shorn pelts brought $22.25-24.50, including Choice 121# averages at $24.00. Some Good offerings sold toward the close as low as $19.00, but there were Choice fall shorn up to $25.75 at Chicago. Most Good to Prime spring lambs cleared at $23.00-28.50, a few $29.00-30.00. Cull to low-Good offerings sold in a $12.00-22.00 range. Cull to Choice shorn slaughter ewes brought $2.50-6.00, mostly $3.00 and above.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW

Prices of slaughter steers and heifers showed a steady to 25¢ lower trend at Western terminals, instances 50¢ off at Los Angeles and Spokane. Cows sold steady to 50¢ higher for the week; calves and vealers steady; stocker and feeder cattle and calves steady to 50¢ higher. The price trend on barrows and gilts was steady to 50¢ higher; spring and old crop lambs closing 50¢-$1.75 higher.

Choice slaughter steers ranged from $19.00-21.00 including numerous loads up to 1150 pounds in the Far West at $20.00-20.75, two loads high-Choice 1040 pound steers $21.00 at S. San Francisco. Several loads of average to high-Choice 1020-1340 pound steers were included at $19.85-20.50 with two loads 1170-1310 pound steers carrying an end of Prime at $21.00 at Denver. Good steers bulked at Western terminals from $17.00-19.00; Commercial largely $16.00-17.50. Choice slaughter heifers up to 1070 pound cleared from $18.50-20.00, Good $16.50-19.00, Commercial $15.00-17.00. Most Commercial cows brought $13.00-14.50; Utility $11.50-13.00; Canner and Cutter $9.00-11.50. Choice vealers cleared from $25.00-27,00 in the Northwest, same grade elsewhere $20.00-25.00, Good $18.00-24.00, Commercial $15.00-19.00. Good and Choice slaughter calves brought $16.00-21.50. The same grades of stocker and feeder steers cashed from $16.50-18.50, Choice fleshy feeders up to $18.85 at Denver; Good and Choice stocker and feeder heifers $15.00-17.25, several loads Choice 700-790 pounds at Denver $17.75-18.25. Bulk Good and Choice stock steer calves brought $18.00-20.00, with a few mostly Choice from $19.00-21.00 at Denver.

Direct trade on slaugnter steers and heifers out of California feedlots was steady to 25¢ higher with Most Choice steers up to 1200 pounds at $20.00-20.50, at least six loads 1050 pounds at $20.75 and six loads high-Choice and Prime at $21.00-21.25. Good steers sold in the direct trade mostly from $18.00-19.50. Several loads of Good and Choice heifers cleared from $17.00-19.50. A few loads of Utility and Commercial cows brought steady prices ranging from $12.00-13.50. Stocker and feeder trade was slow at mostly steady to weak prices. Numerous loads of Good and Choice fleshy 1000-1100 pound feeder steers brought $17.00-17.50, a few 700-800 pounds $17.00. Good and Choice 500-600 pound stocker and feeder heifers cleared from $15.00 to mostly $16.00 for immediate to May 20 delivery. Above sales f.o.b. ranch or feedlot at 3 to 4% shrink.

Continued on page 408.

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WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 407

U. S. No. 1 to 3 180-240 pound barrows and gilts brought $17.25 at S. San Francisco and Stockton; $16.25-17.25 at Los Angeles; $17.50-18.25 at North Portland; $16.25-17.00 at Spokane; $15.00-16.50 at Ogden; $15.50-16.35 at Denver.

Slaughter spring and old crop lambs continued in good demand and trading was active. Choice and Prime 86-98 pound native spring lambs brought $26.50 to mostly $28.00 late at Denver, Good and Choice $24.00-27.00. Choice shorn lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts sold there from $23.50-24.75. Choice and Prime spring lambs brought $25.50-26.00 at North Portland, selling up to $25.75 at Ogden; and from $24.75-25.00 at S. San Francisco. Choice old crop lambs earned $18.50-19.00 at North Portland, some Choice offerings with No. 3 pelts $18.50-18.75. In the direct trade on California spring lambs Choice and Prime sold late in the week from $23.50-23.75, some out of second hands up to $24.00.